



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN

April 9, 2021

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
U.S. House of Representatives
272 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter inquiring about the status of the Travelers' Information Station licensed to the Town of Portola Valley California (the Town). We support the many benefits that broadcasting important safety information to travelers in the Portola Valley community brings. As you note in your letter, the Commission granted two requests from the Town for Special Temporary Authorization, for 60 and 180 days respectively, to allow operation of its station with upgraded facilities while the FCC evaluated the Town's underlying application for a permanent license. The second Special Temporary Authorization expired on December 22, 2020, and our licensing records indicate the Town did not request a renewal of the temporary authorization.

We contacted the Town's representatives and advised them to apply for a new temporary authorization, which they have since filed. In our call with the Town representatives, we also informed them that one of its current uses of the station – for broadcast of Town meetings – is not permitted because the Commission's rules limit Travelers' Information Stations to providing travel-related information. Within a few days after our call, the Town filed for Special Temporary Authority, and on March 31, 2021, we granted the Town's request for Special Temporary Authority for call sign WRMF 464 to operate for 180 days, through September 27, 2021, with upgraded facilities pending FCC action on its application for permanent authority.

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau's licensing staff is evaluating the Town's resubmitted application for a permanent license to determine the effect that the requested upgraded facilities might have on the reception by the public of existing AM broadcast stations and other Travelers' Information Stations. We will expedite this process and grant the application if it is found to conform to the FCC's rules.

If we may be of further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jessica Rosenworcel